Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota has a wealth of native and introduced fruits and honey that provide potential for farm wineries to add substantial value to previously underutilized agricultural resources from across South Dakota; and,

Whereas, South Dakota wines capture the essence of autumn in South Dakota to be available to customers around the world and throughout the year; and,

Whereas, South Dakota wines have won numerous regional and national awards and develops the South Dakota visitor experience through the agritourism element of wineries; and,

Whereas, South Dakota fruit and wine production contributes to the diversity of South Dakota's rich agricultural heritage, as well as providing economic and employment components to rural areas; and,

Whereas, South Dakota wine production has increased dramatically to over 15,000 gallons annually since farm wineries were defined by statute in 1997 and have enjoyed a 225 percent production increase in 2003 from the previous year; and,

Whereas, South Dakota wine production contributes to the state of South Dakota revenues via an excise tax on every gallon of wine produced; and,

Whereas, South Dakota vintners are supportive of the "responsible consumption" concept and promote the health aspect of wine, as well as the idea that South Dakota wines should be enjoyed as a complement to food:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November, 2004, as

SOUTH DAKOTA WINE MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State